SMOG
Apr 1981

EDITOR'S CRY

For this month (April) we here at 'Smash-your-election-results' are trying to do one issue a week. I know we can do it. DO IT! Look for us everywhere (well, Record Peddler-Vortex, on Dundas betw-een Church and Jarvis-Driftwood music and prbably some other places too). At the beginning of every week for April you can find us lurking somewhere in one of the above mentioned stores. I think each issue will be different so it should be interesting. If you have any ideas/complaints/etc, about this Fanzine then give me a write 141 Collier st T.O.

The Par tvs Over have a cassette pet that will thrill all you Kraftwerk and Ultravow fans. It's chock full of synths electronic drums, distortted voices and T.V. and police radio noises. I think they're selling it for $3.00 at your near-est Record Peddler outlet. Buy it just because it's (i think) the first of it's kind available to Toronto fans. A great idea that I think a lot more local bands should get into. For the band itself, its very inexpensive to do a tape like this. Thirty minutes of electronic garble-garble. With some songs (?) that I really like-'Crash'-'Visible Dog'. This is the sort of thing that you can't analize to bits, just get out and buy it.

HORSESHOE - Whats Happnin'?

Wednesday (April 1) Bangkok - April Fools Party

Thursday (April 2) Joshua 3$

FRiday (April 3) Government

Saturday (April 4) Bobby Craymer + the Features.

6th to the 8th — Unknowns / Baby slitters + Hungar Project.

9th - 20th Century Rebels

10th - Blue Peter

11th - Bop Cats + Cobras

13th + 14th - Cubes

18th April - Jim Eaves* ₡300 lbs - 10piece R+B band. "A preacher, a wrestler, actor + guitar player."

Every Sat. Bangkok with an all-star cast. Many wonderful peeple Filling shoe stage.

COMING!! FORGOTTEN REBELS D.O.A. Lee Perry!!

MR SOUND GOT WISE TO ME - THEY FINALLY GOT RID OF 'A PROBLEM'. I'm laughing.

DON'T FORGET ALL THIS MONTH THIS THING'll BE OUT ONCE A WEEK.

This should be Fun: SMASH IT UP goes on T.V.!! Yup - we've hit the bigtime! MAY FIVE on Rogers Cable T.V. Tell your friends to watch - I'm telling mine.

NEXT WEEK: A SURPRISE FOR ALL YOU NO-KNOWS OUT THERE.

Isez te Niki I sez Niki sez I we o'rta put this rag out every week this month I sez te Niki sez I. Niki he sez te me he sez, Rock Rot he sez, that's h.r.e.a.l.g.o.o.d. idea.

THIS IS DONE BY HENRY - REGULAR PHART OF THIS, FOR AWHILE. ↓

COVER ILLUSTRATION: NOXIOUS ART...

Wave Review

March 4 '81

Your reporter paid his bucks, (SIX) unlike our crying editor who is privileged and didn't but who's good at sneakin' in.

So the place is still de zone. Too small and shitty inna.

John Paul Young plays first (for 15 minutes) and bores all us "in" people. Plays electronic stuff but kinda unoriginal for a Scab. Woody windat the short set kinda shitty performance.

Surprise! On they go. Rushes to the front to get some pics. Group (according to Cia). First song: "In the Flat Field" (their album). Second song: "In the Flat Field" (they did it again). Third song (no it wasn't). Actually both versions were pretty good. They've got Finders an attributes. To be different and all in looks and sound, (sorta avant-garde punk or sumthin) they are. Good and loud too. Lots of ideas.

At the front there was a good crush and a few pozy dancers. They played only a few songs from the album but they did Telegram Sex great. Also exceptionals: Dark Entries and their first single which they did as their only encore.

Me and ol' Wet Eyes went and talked to the drummer and bass player to find out; they like Telegram Sam, was one of their first songs, the night went alright, it was small, audience was quiet (to them), their record companies have been ok; their next album will be more dance-orientated, they are from Northampton (80 miles north of London Eng), Kick in the Eye in next single, they're not good electricians; all about 22 and 21. Production of the LP not what they like.

And no pics cos' I blew the exposure.

By Wiener

So having come prepared (broke) I quit drinking, stood in a corner and a half waiting.

TRUTHS AND RIGHTS PART THREE

BY YOURS TRULY

Quammie: People need to be exposed to everything so they can choose. You know, well go see this and then this. Then culture and art elevates to the level where everyone can look to Toronto Canada and say, "we can leave you and come here and somethings happening." Because it's silly that some bands say that we have to go to London England or it's impossible to continue playing music.

ME: What do you think of The Police and other bands like that, that use reggae influence in their songs.

Quammie: As an artist I like the Police, and I think it's nice that they use a Reggae base in their songs. Music is universal, we have rock influences in our music. My only beef now, is that the media now are using the Police as an excuse not to play reggae music. What the people really crave for is Reggae music, just because of the mere fact that they're buying Police records.

The band right now is recording tracks for an upcoming album. They still have money worries & are telling all the record company people to put their money where their mouth is. As it is - theyre still negociating with many different major companys. Truths & Right have been twice to Quebec and have found a large hungrey group of people who are starving for Reggae music. One Love is currently touring there for 3 weeks - Places such as Montreal, Quebec city, Alma and other industrial towns seem to want more reggae bands - or just any kind of live band to entertain them. There are already a lot of bands in Quebec most sing in French - so they rarely tour outside PQ. The Latin Americans and French seem to be very hungry for Reggae though.

TRUTHS & RIGHTS

The riddum that killed Ray-gun!

PART FOUR

ME: what do you think about the other Reggae bands in To?

Quammie: Well, Leroy Sibbles (formerly of the Heptones) is great, Leroy has been through the mill, he is probably the most accomplished in terms of his art. I'm not including Ernie Smith, because he has gone back to Jamaica. When I hear bands like One Love, I can definatly hear a Canadian sound in Reggae. I listen to a lot of English Reggae and West Indian Reggae and Canadian Reggae is fast approaching those. I'm sure that whats happening in England is going to happen here - in terms of White & Black musicians playing together.

Would you go to England if some one offered the band shows?

Quammie: Yeah sure. We see ourselves as an international band. We want to keep a scope on whats going on elsewhere to, right? In terms of what were striving for, right? Also because there's a lot more happening there than here right now. If we got a certain amount of success over there, we would still be a band from the Toronto scene and that would make it easier for the other reggae bands here in toronto.

Then there's other artists, like Bruce Cockburn - who's great eh? But Canada is not doing a lot for it's artists. He's doing a lot of Reggae influenced things right?

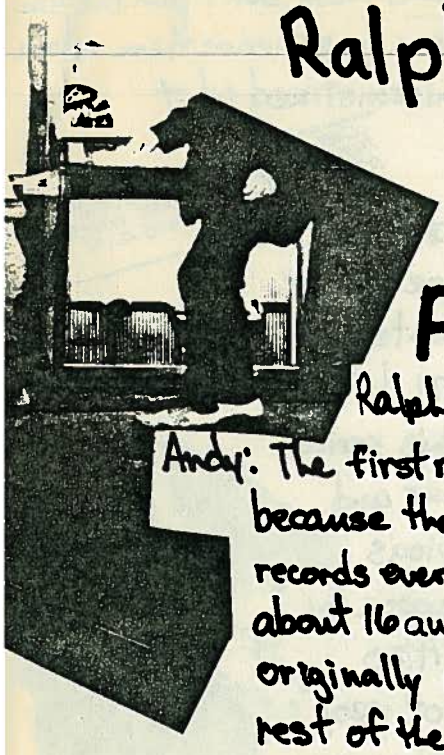
You see, it's not the artists that aren't communicating. it's the media. The media have to communicate with the bands - because they play such an important part in this game. END IT

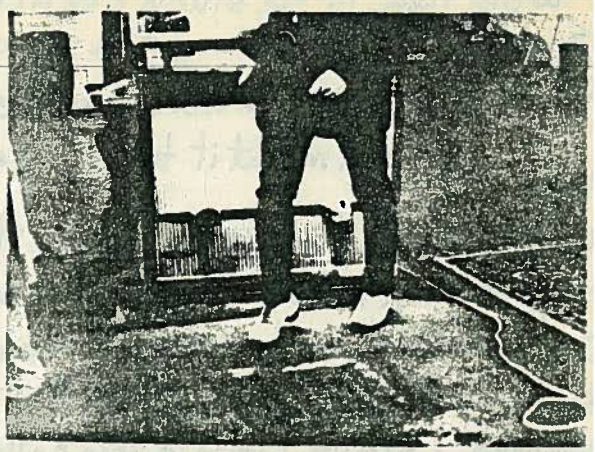
simple minds - at the Edge.

I didn't want to spend another 45 minutes walking to the front, then walking back to the back. Then back to the front again. And I didn't want to spend another single fucking second looking at all you fucking dumb people. So I left after the first show. went home to write this. I think it's a lot more creative than posering and getting bombed with the rest of them. LEA. The band? Well, the bandmembers just amazing. Playing in the dark & all! Very dramatic. They have like a photographer's pit. Be yourself a flavour & try another flavour.

Ralph Dinner's Verbal Repast with Andy Paterson

Pix By Miss H.





Ralph: Do you have your own label?

Andy: The first record was self-pressed the Hemingway thing. And this is confusing because the Electric Eye is on a small little label, actually that's one of two records ever produced on this label. The Electric Eye was going to be one of about 16 audio tapes by various video & audio artists, The Electric Eye was originally a preformance piece & the money didn't exist to make the rest of the audio tapes, so the guy who ran it, A guy named Clive Robertson, kept sort of sounding the idea to press it (Electric Eye) as an album. I thought about it & said "Sure" So anyways the Government may seem to appear on 4 different labels, for every recording. But no the Government dosen't have it's own label unless we press something up independently. Well I'm basically for putting things out independently and then hiring people to distribute them because I just havent got the time or the money myself. Some of what goes on in England strikes me as pretty healthy, the way some labels operate like Factory, Rough Trade, Industrial. Rough Trade as well as being a label distribute Industrial.

THE MORE I SHOW HER I LOVE HER, THE LESS SHE SEEMS TO WANT ME.

IT'S MY FAULT. I WAS TOO TENDER.

TO HAVE ME WAS MUCH TOO EASY FOR HER.

Ralph: I wish we could see some of that over here as well.

Andy: It should be happening everywhere. It should be happening in the states too. 99 Records are interesting. 99's a record store that sells a lot of imports. They've also started a little label. I'm not sure who else they've got besides Glenn Branca? Glenn used to be in the Theoretical Girls. Glenn's sort of doing a thing now, sort of music of the ether for all kinds of prepared guitars. He was at the Cabana Room a while ago. He's a friend of mine, I thought I'd bring him up here.

Ralph: Where's 99 from?

Andy: They're out of N.Y. There's another one called American Clave that's starting, they're doing DNA's new EP in the state's & Rough Trades doing it in England. Yeah. I support the idea of Independent labels. I wouldn't mind getting myself in the position where if I saw somebody, who I thought could be recorded, that a) didn't want to deal with a standard label & b) wouldn't even be noticed by them anyways. I wouldn't mind being able

to get them in the studio & be a custodian... you know don't produce them, don't put mellotrons on it or something then they could sound like FM radio you know, just leave them alone

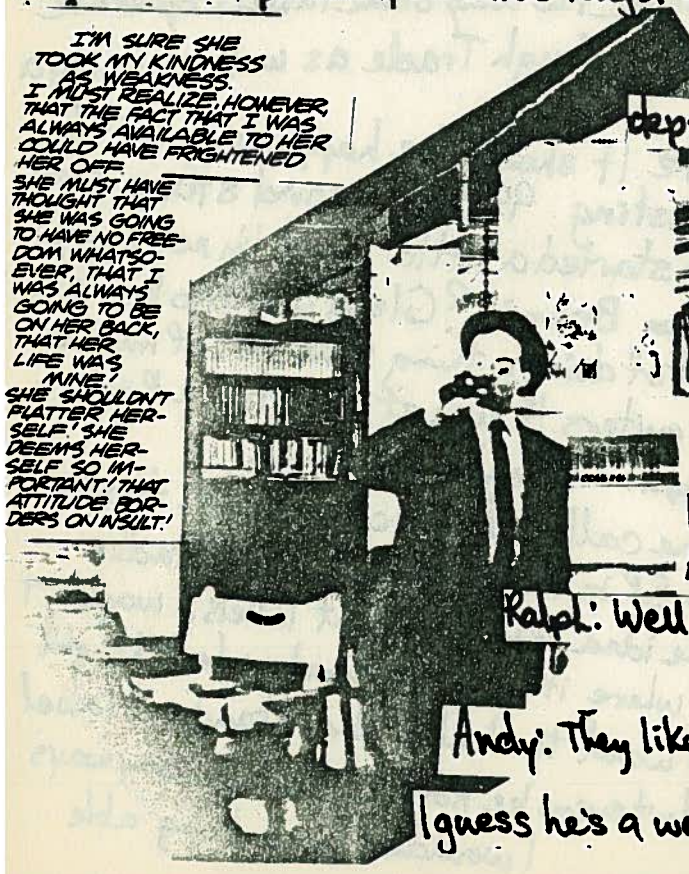
Ralph: You said you were surprised about Flat Tire, how it was misconstrued what you had meant it to be & what people took it as.

Andy: Well first of all you've got to say that our EP was a demo tape we decided to press. You know it was a demo for us too because it was like "Oh let's see how we can use the studio, I can actually overdub & things like that. In a way I wanted to see how a real arrangement like that could go, like how far. In late 1977 I decided I should write a song called Flat Tire because there was this period when I was really depressed and all I did was stay home & drink a little beer and watch television. Anyways what I'm saying is to me that song's really obvious It's a guy saying his tires not going anywhere, he's stuck. You make the space your stuck in your own for awhile rather than trying to move out of it. Also it's also the reverse of this car thing. So I guess what happens a lot of peop just hear the tittle because it's the part that stands out the most, somebody gave me a flat tire, it sounds vindictive or something. I must confess that sometimes might write about something small. I can see how it relates to something big, like I mean television, television's enormous but I mean your on television, stuff like that. But I mean I don't even drive, I was one of these guys who were thought to be weird in high school because I didn't drive they figured I was a fairy or something because I didn't drive.

LOVE IS THE SAME AS EVERY-THING ELSE: ONLY THAT WHICH LOSES SOMETHING HAS ANY VALUE.

Ralph: You'll probably be alive longer.

Andy: Could be, except that doesn't mean I don't ride in cars. It just means I don't drive myself. The people in the back seat or in the other front seat get killed too. It just would depress me, sometimes we play a place like "the edge" and people will just go "Flat Tire!" "Flat tire"! we already played the damned thing it's their fault they come in too late or something. I look at these guys, they all prob ably drive & talk about my V-8's bigger than your V-8 & they drink a lot of beer It's like what am I doing with this audience?

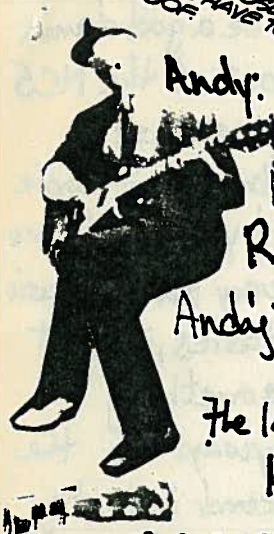


Ralph: Well now that you have all this airplay on CFNY

Andy: Do we, I haven't been listening)

Ralph: Well tell you the truth neither have I, but I know they've always supported you.

Andy: They like that record, when I went up there the guy McNally I guess he's a well meaning guy but I don't know like I guess he lives



In another part of the world or something. He said how come there's not another commercial one like Flat Tire on it, which I would dispute.

Ralph: Did you just look at him? I would of.

Andy: Oh if I had brains I would've done that, but I tried. But then he say's "I know you say its about something cerebral", I don't know if he talks like that, but let's face it alot of people think it's about some guy on the phone having a flat tire.

Ralph: Do you wanna produce?

Andy: Yeah. Robert Stewart & I have a good sense of production Robert's got a very good sense, I wouldn't mind having him produce me solo. We all produced the last album to a point & there was a guy working with us who we fell out with. I don't want to talk about it other than he had delusions of grandeur.

Ralph: It's your music, why don't they just leave you alone?

Andy: Well that's the attitude except it does come down to like if somebody puts money into something, it's like theoretically if I borrowed money off my uncle George to make a record, then when you get technical uncle George probably has a right to say yeah but this has got to be on it otherwise I won't be getting my money back And that's the whole syndrome.

Ralph: Canada's so 'let's play it safe'

Andy: Well I hate to say this because there's some things about Canada I like but I want to get out of Canada. I wanted to go to N.Y. a couple of years ago, now I just feel I have to go International, I feel I want to license this stuff overseas, make some more, be negotiated for by people. I don't like what people do in T.O. Everything I hear here is safe & boring & predictable

Ralph: Isn't it nice?

Andy: No it's boring, I never go to clubs to hear bands. Nothings going on in T.O. I'm known in the states, maybe more than the Government. Me & Robert do seperate things down there, like some soundtrax for some cable things. As well we took the band down there. But aside from like 99 records and maybe Bleeker Bob's, it's another record store in the West Village & a couple in the East Village, people say "owww it's Canadian nahh" They think it's safe punk, they think it's like something on Bomb or like the (no offense pool) or the Diodes. But you have to say it's not the typical stuff, they can't be bothered putting it on, they've got stuff to do, So I'm not knocking them for that attitude.

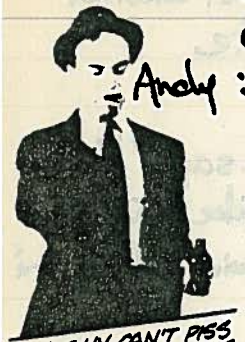
Ralph: I've always felt that any talent that is here now, they have to get out of

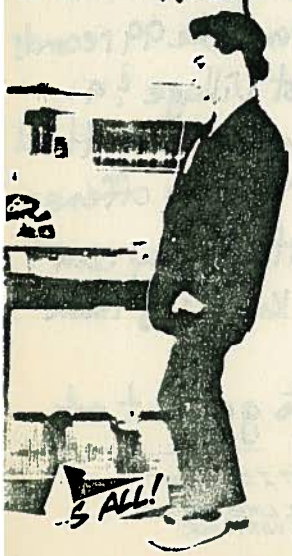
IF SHE LOVES ME, SHE'LL TAKE ME BACK.

IF SHE DOESN'T LOVE ME AND LEAVES AGAIN, WHAT DOES IT MATTER? I'VE GOT PLENTY OF NOTHING NOW.

THE SNAG IS THAT I LOVE HER.

AND I DON'T FEEL LIKE PLAYING THESE GAMES WITH HER.





the country if they want to get ahead. There's nothing here to make it with or for. Well maybe Streetheart.

Andy: Well fuck that. But that's the crux. If somebody's going to be a god damn musician. Well look at Teenage Head (who), they came from being out of the MC5 & Stooges punk band, which in 1977 anyways had some validity because energy was necessary and they came into being a heavy metal bar band People up here think they're big, just because they play around alot & you see they're name alot. Why do they play around alot? Because they play very normal music Everything out by the Government is too fucking normal for my tastes, it's got to be because there's a time lapse between when you record something & when your in the studio your recording something that's old anyways. In the new Impulse I did a very scathing ~~piece~~ piece about the record industry I was having a conversation with a guy who was putting a record out himself & we were talking about how interesting records just aren't coming out. But beyond a certain circle nobody knows about say other people's artwork Beyond a certain circle nobody knows that John Lenry of the lounge Lizards is also a first rate actor in alot of NY. Movies. People in Rexdale don't know that I do alot of other things, that I also do videotapes independently, things like that & they don't give a ~~rat~~ royal tanker, so you know. it's just their limited range of interests. I mean if the question comes up to you "Do you want their money?" and I hate to say it, but the answer is if you probably want money to start an independent labels or produce people the answer is yes you want their money somehow, lets just hope for an unfortunate accident because I think it's a mistake to calculate your product for that sensetivity.

Ralph: Yeah their money's just as good as anyone else's & you need money to get off the ground.

Andy: Money's money & it doesn't matter who it comes from. Whether it's the Canada Council, Uncle George or the "People" in Rexdale. And it's better the people you don't have to technichally pay back. Now what I wonder what about the people in Rexdale, do you have to pay them back by saying Oh, here's another one for you cause you were so good first & all your product ends up on that level. Which is like the guy at CFNY saying why didn't you do another flat tire? I think personally on that album there are songs that are probably as accesable as Flat Tire. Probably not as maybe obviously arranged. I think on Flat Tire there were probably a couple of jokes that fell Flat.

(con't issue after next)

PART 2

It's not only a band, it's a con- ...t It's a way of life. Minds exist- ...ts exist-who stop them? They in ...se damn mountains-they don't have no ...ey, but they exist. We have access ... go in a house and live, who say we ... better than them? You can't stop ...em. You can shoot up the whole world ...t, but you're still gonna see a goat on ...ountain-just the same way as before.

...E LOVE: Who's to say that your magazine ... won't be world wide?

... I don't want a board of editors to ... answer to. I want the freedom to do ... whatever I like with it.

...E LOVE: That's another thing too. I ... don't think you have any control over ... what's going to happen. If you put ... your $100 in, it's going to bloom. ... (That's the truth) The company will ... try to stop you-but once you give-up ... when you see an obstacle, and you say ... "man, that;s it," you've failed.

...e talked for awhile about the local ...ggae scene, They complained that reggae ...s being held down and that it was being ...ayed in dives and bars. Wishing that ...ggae be played in, "so-called 'plush' ...aces", like the Four Seasons. ... don't know what's holding it down, but ...omething is".

...guess one good reason is that teenagers ...e influenced greatly by what they hear ... the radio and what's on T.V. Because ...ere has never been a "Reggae" artist ...ing his own original song they've ...ver been exposed to it. It's just the ...d rock and pop fluff that the radio ...aholes think that everybody wants to ...ar. Both F.M. and A.M.

"Canada is rock music, I understand ...at, But why can't the white D.J."s who ...ay the rock music play other kinds of ...sic-not just Reggae. You can't just ...aten to rock all the time-it gets ~~boring~~ ...ing, monotonous. Just a little bit of ...erything would be better".

...ou Hear Reggae on A.M. "

...eah! But it's watered down".

... You don't hear Reggae on the radio. ... Bob Marley or Peter Tosh have never ... had one of their own songs played by ... themselves on the radio. It's " I shot ... The Sherriff" by Eric Clapton or the ... Police or something.

...E BY NIKI —LOVE OUT—

Seems to me that the Police are trying to get into reggae. It's so... um... white imitation reggae man. Punkers.....

The Police are not bad, but they're not really saying a lot.

It's not Reggae man, don't say it's Reggae. It's imitation-you got to be rooted-like us, we are rooted. Instead of the radio preaching sex and stuff, why not preach oneness, guidance and love, then things will come together. I'm not knockin' the music-cause it's your music, I'm lookin' at it from a different point of view right? Rock music is good music, but too much of anything is no good. When you're trying to force things on people-one day- the same way they accept it, they're gonna reject that damn thing. And this is what I hope to live to see. But I hope one day-rock musicians-reggae musicians-jazz musicians-funk musicians, all get together and share things equally. And this is what I hope and pray for. Instead of the one guy having the cake and eatin' it too.

Hopefully, some of you will check out One Love. They have a lot to say, & worth saying.
The music they play is just incredible. They really are the tightest Reggae band in Toronto right now!
I love it when they dub. The sound just grabs you by your spine and forces you to dance.
The lyrics are sung clearly so you can understand what the band is saying.
Try and see them at the Horseshoe-by far the best sound system in town-especially for a fab. band like these guys.

WOMLIV support

Lucy Falco